

REMARKS

Favorable consideration of this application as presently amended and in light of the following discussion is respectfully requested.

Claims 1-9 and 11-20 are pending in the present application. Claims 1-9 are amended, Claim 10 is canceled, and Claims 11-20 are added by the present amendment.

Claims 1-7 are amended to recite the “means for transmitting” in means-plus-function format. Claim 8 is amended to recite the “means for transferring” in means-plus-function format. Claim 9 is amended to recite the “means for transmitting” and the “means for transferring” in means-plus-function format. New Claims 11-17 are similar to Claims 1-7, but recite the “means for recognizing” and “means for determining” in means-plus-function format. Accordingly, 35 U.S.C. § 112, sixth paragraph, applies.

New dependent Claims 18-20 are added to recite a further limitation of the “another device” and “first memory” of independent Claims 1, 9, and 11, respectively. Each of the new Claims 18-20 recites that the “another device” has an interface for viewing the “messages”;¹ and that the first memory maintains the stored messages while and after the messages are viewed on the another device.²

This application is a continuation of parent application 09/704,606, filed on November 3, 2000. With the exception of the recitation of the means-plus-function features noted above, the changes made pursuant to this preliminary amendment are similar to changes made in the parent application by an amendment filed November 19, 2003, in response to the corresponding Office Action mailed May 19, 2003.

¹ See Applicants’ discussion of the user agent for support. The user agent can read and write messages (page 10, lines 30-32), as well as prompt message transmission by the MPD (page 14, lines 6-8).

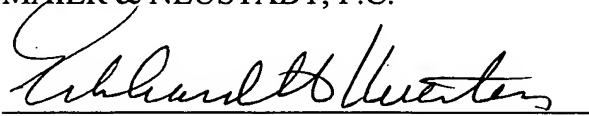
² See Applicants’ Specification, page 6, lines 25-30, for support.

Preliminary Amendment
Docket Number: 249907US2RD CONT
Inventor: Satoshi OZAKI

Consequently, this application is believed to be in condition for allowance and an action on the merits is earnestly solicited.

Respectfully submitted,

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